Statistics re. Under-trial Prisoners.

94. MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a statement showing:

(*a*) the number of under-trial prisoners in the years 1096, 1097 and 1098;

(*b*) the percentage of conviction among such prisoners; and

(*c*) the average length of time they were confined as under-trial prisoners?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

	1096	*1097*	*1098*
(*a*) Number of under-trial prisoners	1,226	1,177	1,333
(*b*) Percentage of conviction	61·47	64·91	59·88
(*c*) Average number of days	19·57	18·92	17·76

Treatment of Under-trial Prisoners.

95. MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): (*a*) Are the Government aware that under-trial prisoners are treated much worse than convicted persons, in so far as daily baths, clean clothes and shaving are denied to them?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state what arrangements, if any, exist in respect of the aforesaid needs of under-trial prisoners?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) There are no arrangements for the provision of clean clothes and shaving to the under-trial prisoners at Government cost; but no impediments are placed in the way of their availing themselves of the above conveniences when supplied by their relatives.

(*b*) The question of improving the conditions under which under-trial prisoners are detained is engaging the attention of the Government.

Lodging of Under-trial Prisoners.

96. MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): Are not the Government aware that under-trial prisoners are lodged in insanitary cells and that they are found to be the carriers of germs of many diseases endangering the safety of the public or the convicts whom they have to join on acquittal or conviction, as the case may be?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The lock-ups in which the under-trial prisoners are lodged are reported to be not insanitary.

Medical Inspection, etc., of Under-trial Prisoners.

97. MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to take early steps for making the lot of under-trial prisoners more bearable and to arrange for a periodical medical inspection of these cells and their occupants?

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